

VERBESINA TEXANA Buckl., Proc. Acad. Nat. Sci. Philadelphia 13: 458. 1861 (1862). LECTOTYPE: UNITED STATES. TEXAS: "Northern Texas," S. B. Buckley *s.n.* (PH!).

We also consider the name to be a synonym of *Verbesina microptera* DC.

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#### NEWLY ADVENTIVE GRASSES IN THE FLORA OF TRINIDAD.—

In the course of working through my recent collections of vascular plants from Trinidad, I encountered two weedy grass species not heretofore credited to the island.

ERAGROSTIS UNIOLOIDES (Retzius) Nees ex Steudel (Poaceae: Festuceae) is an annual, weedy grass of general distribution in Tropical Asia and Africa. There is little in the literature as to its occurrence in the New World. Small (1933) and Hitchcock and Chase (1950) report it for Georgia and Florida; it is listed for Georgia in Duncan and Kartesz (1981); and David Hall (FLAS; pers. comm.) informs me the species has been repeatedly collected in Florida from Polk County north. Koch (1978) makes no mention of it. It may now be recorded as an adventive in the neotropics: Trinidad, Aripo Savannah, roadside waste area, 18 Jan 1982, *Harriman 17667*; Ruiz Trace off Heights-of-Aripo Road beyond mi 4, 21 Jan 1982, *Harriman 17635*;



Mora Forest Preserve, 4-5 3/4 mi E of Sangre Grande, 23 Jan 1982, *Harriman* 17716. All vouchers are in OSH with duplicates to be distributed. In Hitchcock (1936), still the only treatment that covers the grasses of Trinidad, the species will with difficulty key to *E. Berteroniana* (Schult.) Steud., a species with narrower spikelets and narrowly involute leaves, known only from Hispaniola. *Eragrostis uniolooides* is amply described and very nicely illustrated in Hsu (1975; 1978).

ISCHAEMUM INDICUM (Houtt.) Merrill, Poaceae: Andropogoneae) is a weedy grass of general distribution in India and southeast Asia (Bor, 1960; Hsu, 1978). Croat (1978) gives its range in the New World as Mexico to Ecuador and Brazil and the West Indies. Pohl (1980) credits it only to Costa Rica, Panama, and Guyana. The species is not mentioned in Hitchcock (1936), nor in Gould (1979), nor in Adams (1972). I can confirm its occurrence in Panama (Canal Zone: lawn weed at the Riesch residence in Diablo Heights, 10 Apr 1976, *Nelson* 146, OSH), and add a Trinidad locality (Blanchisseuse Road at mi 10, at a microwave relay station, 16 Jan 1982, *Harriman* 17516, OSH). The grass was so abundant along a goat-grazed roadside as to suggest it had been deliberately planted. The West Indian species of *Ischaemum*, now three in number, all occur in Costa Rica as well, and the key in Pohl (1980) will serve very adequately to distinguish them. His elegant descriptions will likewise facilitate naming material; I would add only that my Trinidad collection of *I. indicum* has the first glume of the subsessile spikelet only scaberulous, not pilose, a variation well within the limits of the species as it is circumscribed in Bor (1960).—Neil A. Harriman, Biology Department, University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh, Oshkosh, WI 54901.

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**REDISCOVERY OF *HYMENOXYYS TEXANA* AND NOTES ON TWO OTHER TEXAS ENDEMICIS**—Three endemic species were described prior to 1900 from low prairies near Houston, Texas. The specimens were collected by Charles Wright in the 1840's, Elihu Hall in 1872, and Houston's own resident botanist, F. W. Thurow, in 1889-90 and 1897 (actually resided in Hockley during that period).

Charles Wright taught at Rutgersville College (near La Grange, Texas) in 1845 and 1846. The college and town of Rutgersville no longer exist. Evidently, Wright traveled and collected along the road from near La Grange to Houston. He had previously visited Columbus, Texas in 1844 where he had relatives. According to Geiser (1937), Wright returned to Cambridge and spent the winter of 1848–49 helping Asa Gray sort out Wright's Texas collections. In 1849, Gray described one of Wright's collections as *Aplopappus aureus* Gray (Pl. Fendl., Mem. Amer. Acad. N.S. 4: 76, *Wright s.n.*, GH), the species now known as *Machaeranthera aurea* (Gray) Shinnery, (Field & Lab. 18: 41. 1950).

F. W. Thurow lived in Hockley and collected plants in the 1880's and 1890's. He came from the Black Forest area in Germany when he was 12 years old and lived in Hockley for 43 years. His last 8 years were spent in Houston (Vines & Thurow, 1964). He collected *Machaeranthera aurea* in 1897 near Hockley (Fig. 1). He also collected *Hymenoxys texana* (Coulter & Rose) Cockerell in 1889-1890, a new species that was described by Coulter & Rose in 1891 (as *Actinella texana*; Bot. Gaz. 16: 27; *Thurow s.n.*, Palmer 742; Fig 2). Of it, Correll & Johnston (1970) state "Rare in sandy soils near Hockley and Houston, Harris Co., probably extinct (no known collections after 1900), Mar–Sep; endemic."

In 1872, Elihu Hall collected 861 specimens of plants in east Texas (Geiser, 1937). In his publication "Plantae Texanae" in 1873, he listed *Thalictrum debile* Buckl. var. *texana* Gray without a description (Fig. 3). Since this name is apparently a nomen nudum, the author citation refers to Gray's treatment in the Synoptical Flora of North America (Robinson, Editor, Volume 1, pt. 1, fasc. 1, p. 18. 1895) where Hall's publication, specimen (as occurring in moist prairies about Houston), and name as a variety are cited. Small (1903) elevated the taxon to the rank of species.